IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with <u>strikethrough</u>. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (previously presented) A repair order receiving and sending system using a customer's unnecessary assets operated on a repairer server, in which the repairer server, a repair requester terminal used by a repair requester, and a component providing candidate terminal used by a component providing candidate are connected to each other on a network, comprising:

a component information database storing components and products using the components so that they correspond to each other;

an owner information database storing identifiers of customers owning the stored products in the component information database, as potential component providers;

a repair request information receiving part receiving repair request information comprising failure information on a product to be repaired and a desired repair fee transmitted from the repair requester terminal;

a repair component specifying part specifying a repair component, based on the failure information;

a component providing candidate selecting part searching the component information database and the owner information database based on the specified repair component, thereby selecting at least one customer owning at least one product comprising the repair component, as a component providing candidate;

a reference purchase price input part inputting a reference purchase price based on the desired repair fee;

a purchase component information notifying part notifying the selected component providing candidate of purchase component information comprising information specifying at least a component desired to be purchased and the reference purchase price of the component desired to be purchased to each of the selected component providing candidates;

a selling component information receiving part receiving selling component information comprising respective, desired selling prices of the repair components from each of the component providing candidates;

a component provider selecting part selecting a component provider from the selected component providing candidates based on the selling component information;

a repair fee input part inputting a repair fee presentable to the repair requester; and a repair information sending part sending repair information comprising the repair fee to the repair requester terminal.

2. (previously presented) The repair order receiving and sending system according to claim 1, wherein the selling component information receiving part receives the selling component information together with information determining a residual value of the repair component, and further comprising:

an evaluation value calculating part calculating an evaluation value, which is an index evaluating a residual value of the repair component corresponding to each component providing candidate, based on the desired selling price and the information determining a residual value of the repair component, and the component provider selecting part selects the component providing candidate that provides the repair component with the highest evaluation value as a component provider.

3. (previously presented) The repair order receiving and sending system according to claim 1, further comprising:

an order sending information receiving part receiving a notice of order sending information from the repair requester; and

a selling request notifying part notifying the component provider that the product or the repair component is purchased at the desired selling price, based on the order sending information.

4. (withdrawn) A repair order receiving and sending system using customer's unnecessary assets operated on a provider server provided by a provider, in which the provider server is connected to a repairer terminal used by a repair requester terminal used by a repair requester on a network, the provider server comprising:

a repairer database storing the repairers and products that can be repaired by the repairers so that they correspond to each other;

a repair request information receiving part for receiving repair request information at least containing information for specifying a product to be repaired and a desired repair fee, transmitted from the repair requester terminal;

a candidate repairer extracting part for searching the repairer database based on the

information for specifying the product to be repaired, and extracting one or a plurality of candidate repairers that can repair the product;

a repair request information notifying part for notifying the repairer terminal used by the candidate repairer of repair request information from the repair requester;

a repairer selecting part for selecting the candidate repairer with the lowest repair fee as a repairer, among the entire input repair information; and

an order notifying part for notifying the repair requester terminal of the repair information and order receiving, and an order sending notifying part for notifying the repairer terminal of order sending.

5. (withdrawn) A repair order receiving and sending system using customer's unnecessary assets according to claim 4, comprising a repair information notifying part for notifying the repair requester terminal of all the repair information sent from the repairer,

wherein the repairer selecting part selects a repairer selected by the repair requester based on the repair information for sending an order, and sent from the repair requester terminal, and

the order notifying part notifies the repairer terminal used by the selected repairer of the order.

- 6. (withdrawn) A repair order receiving and sending system using customer's unnecessary assets according to claim 5, comprising an order receiving part for receiving confirmation of order receiving from the repairer terminal that receives the order, and an order notifying part for notifying the repair requester that the order receiving is established.
- 7. (previously presented) A method of receiving and sending a repair order using customer's unnecessary assets in a network environment in which a repairer server, a repair requester terminal used by a repair requester, and a component providing candidate terminal used by a component providing candidate are connected to each other on a network, the method comprising:

receiving repair request information which comprises failure information on a product to be repaired and a desired repair feefrom the repair requester terminal;

specifying a repair component based on the failure information;

searching a component information database storing components and products using the components so that they correspond to each other and an owner information database storing identifiers of customers owning the stored products in the component information database as potential component providers, based on the specified repair component;

designating at least one customer owning at least one product comprising the repair component as a component providing candidate based on results of the searching of the component information database and the owner information database;

inputting a reference purchase price based on the desired repair fee;

notifying each selected component providing candidate of purchase component information comprising information specifying a component desired to be purchased and the reference purchase price of the component desired to be purchased;

receiving selling component information comprising a desired selling price of the repair component from the component providing candidate;

selecting a component provider from the component providing candidate based on the selling component information;

inputting a repair fee presentable to the repair requester; and sending repair information comprising the repair fee to the repair requester terminal.

8. (withdrawn) A method for receiving and sending a repair order using customer's unnecessary assets in a network environment in which a provider server provided by a provider is connected to a repairer terminal used by a repairer and a repair requester terminal used by a repair requester on a network, the provider server comprising:

receiving repair request information at least containing information for specifying a product to be repaired and a desired repair fee, transmitted from the repair requester terminal;

searching a repairer database storing the repairers and products that can be repaired by the repairers so that they correspond to each other, based on the information for specifying a product to be repaired, and extracting one or a plurality of candidate repairers that can repair the product;

notifying the repairer terminal used by the candidate repairer of repair request information from the repair requester;

selecting the candidate repairer with the lowest repair fee as a repairer, among the entire input repair information; and

notifying the repair requester terminal of the repair information and order receiving, and notifying the repairer terminal of order sending.

9. (currently amended) A storage medium readable by a machine tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to process a repair order by:[[:]]

receiving repair request information comprising failure information on a product to be repaired and a desired repair fee from a repair requester;

specifying a repair component based on the failure information;

searching a component information database storing components and products using the components so that they correspond to each other and an owner information database storing identifiers of customers owning the stored products in the component information database as potential component providers, based on the specified repair component, thereby selecting at least one customer owning at least one product including the repair component as a component providing candidate;

inputting a reference purchase price based on the desired repair fee;

notifying each selected component providing candidate of purchase component information comprising information specifying a component desired to be purchased and the reference purchase price of the component desired to be purchased;

receiving selling component information comprising a desired selling price of the repair component from the component providing candidate;

selecting a component provider from the at least one component providing candidate based on the selling component information;

inputting a repair fee presentable to the repair requester; and sending repair information comprising the repair fee to the repair requester.

10. (withdrawn) A recording medium storing a computer-executable program for realizing a method for receiving and sending a repair order using customer's unnecessary assets in a network environment in which a provider server provided by a provider is connected to a repairer terminal used by a repairer and a repair requester terminal used by a repair requester on a network, the provider server comprising:

receiving repair request information at least containing information for specifying a product to be repaired and a desired repair fee, transmitted from the repair requester terminal;

searching a repairer database storing the repairers and products that can be repaired by the repairers so that they correspond to each other, based on the information for specifying a product to be repaired, and extracting one or a plurality of candidate repairers that can repair the product;

notifying the repairer terminal used by the candidate repairer of repair request information from the repair requester;

selecting the candidate repairer with the lowest repair fee as a repairer, among the entire input repair information; and

notifying the repair requester terminal of the repair information and order receiving, and notifying the repairer terminal of order sending.

11. (previously presented) A repair order receiving and sending system using customer's unnecessary assets operated on a repairer server provided by a repairer, in which the repairer server, a repair requester terminal used by a repair requester, and a component providing candidate terminal used by a component providing candidate are connected to each other on a network, the repair order receiving and sending system comprising:

a repair requester terminal which transmits, from the repair requester, repair request information including failure information on a product to be repaired and a desired repair fee;

a repairer server comprising:

a component information database storing components and products using the components so that they correspond to each other;

an owner information database storing identifiers of customers owning the stored products in the component information database as potential component providers,

wherein , a repair component is specified based on the failure information, and the component information database and the owner information database are searched based on the specified repair component, whereby at least one customer owning at least one product including the repair component is selected as a component providing candidate, a reference purchase price is input based on the desired repair fee, and the component providing candidate terminal used by the selected component providing candidate is notified of purchase component information which comprises information specifying a product desired to be purchased and the reference purchase price of the product desired to be purchased, and a component provider is selected from the at least one component providing candidate based on selling component information, a repair fee presented to the repair requester is input, and repair information at least containing the repair fee is sent to the repair requester terminal; and

a component providing candidate terminal which communicates with the repairer server and transmits selling component information containing a desired selling price of the repair component in response to the purchase component information sent from the repairer server.

12. (withdrawn) A repair order receiving and sending system using customer's unnecessary assets supporting repair of a broken-down apparatus,

wherein repair request information at least containing failure information for specifying a product or a component targeted for repair, a desired repair fee, and information on whether or not the use of a second-hand component is accepted is input to go on public on a network,

Serial No. 09/956,934

regarding a repair component specified based on the repair request information and a product including the repair component, public buying on the network is supported,

one or a plurality of estimated repair fees including information on whether or not the use of a second-hand component is accepted with respect to the repair request information is displayed together with estimators, and

an estimated repair fee targeted for requesting repair is selected from the one or plurality of estimated repair fees, and a repair request with respect to the estimator who presents the selected estimated repair fee is input.

- 13. (canceled)
- 14. (canceled)
- 15. (canceled)
- 16. (canceled)
- 17. (canceled)
- 18. (canceled)
- 19. (canceled)
- 20. (canceled)
- 21. (canceled)